

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENTI 04688 281254 Z

47

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 IO-13 DPW-01 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 RSR-01

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O R 281210 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4759

INFO WHITE HOUSE

CIA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC

CINCPACAF

CINCPACFLT

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

USDEL JEC PARIS

SECDEF

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 4688

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, PINS, PINT, PFOR, LA, US, VN, XC

SUBJECT: THE LAOS CEASEFIRE- EIGHTEENTH WEEK

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

REF: VIENTIANE 4536

I. POLITICAL SITUATION

1. DURING THE EIGHTEENTH WEEK OF THE CEASEFIRE, NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO LAO SIDES FIRST STALLED AND THEN RESUMED. THE TWO SIDES DIFFERED OVER LPF DEMANDS TO STATION ITS TROOPS OUTSIDE VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG, AS WELL AS OVER MOST ASPECTS OF THE MILITARY PORTIONS OF THE PROTOCOL UNDER NEGOTIATION.
2. FAR GENERALS OPPOSED RLG CONCESSION ON LPF DEMAND TO STATION THEIR TROOPS OUTSIDE TWO MAJOR CITIES. THIS POSITION WAS UPHELD BY SOUVANNA.
3. AS A RESULT OF RLG'S REJECTION OF LPF DEMAND ON STATIONING OF TROOPS, NEGOTIATIONS WERE STALLED FOR SEVERAL DAYS. ON JUNE 27 HOWEVER THE TWO NEGOTIATORS RESUMED DISCUSSION OF THE MILITARY ASPECTS OF PROTOCOL.

II. MILITARY SITUATION

1. GROUND ACTION CONTINUED AT LOW LEVEL DURING EIGHTEENTH WEEK OF CEASEFIRE WITH 13 INCIDENTS REPORTED (PRELIMINARY), COMPARED TO 17 DURING PREVIOUS WEEK. NEARLY ALL INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN SOUTH LAOS IN MR- III. ALL 17 RLAF COMBAT SORTIES, COMPARED TO 4 DURING PREVIOUS WEEK, WERE FLOWN IN SUPPORT OF FIGHTING IN MR- III.
2. IN MR- III, ACTION FLARED UP APPROX 20 KM EAST OF THAKHEK, WHERE FRIENDS LOST TO SHARP ENEMY ATTACK AN OUTPOST WHICH THEY HAD SEIZED JUST AFTER THE CEASEFIRE AND HELD AGAINST LIGHT OPPOSITION. ATTEMPTS TO RECAPTURE THIS PASS AREA WHICH COMMANDS ROUTE 12 HAVE BEEN STYMIED BY HEAVY ENEMY SHELLINGS AND UNKNOWN SIZE ENEMY PRESENCE; FURTHER ATTEMPTS ARE PLANNED. FARTHER NORTH, ENEMY PURSUED THE REFUGEES WHO HAD WITHDRAWN FROM SAN SOAK (SITE 126) ENCLAVE AND HARASSED THEM WITH FIRE. ELSEWHERE, MINOR SKIRMISHES CONTINUED IN THE RICE- RICH AREA SOME 25 KM EAST/ NORTHEAST OF KENGKOK, BUT WITH NO SIGNIFICANT CASUALTIES OR CHANGES IN POSITION NOTED. THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS REPORTED IN THE SOUKHOUMA AREA OF MR- IV THIS PAST WEEK, PERHAPS BECAUSE THE REGION COMMANDER WITHDREW THREE COMPANIES OF REINFORCEMENTS AND TWO HOWITZERS.

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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Subject: THE LAOS CEASEFIRE- EIGHTEENTH WEEK
TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, PGOV, PINS, PINT, LA, US, XC
To: BANGKOK
CIA
EA
JAKARTA
LONDON
MOSCOW
NEW DELHI

OTTAWA
SECSTATE WASHDC

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